MARSAILI AGUS A’ BHLEIDEAG AIRGID

‘S e seo an t-ochdamh bliadhna a tha sgioba Fèisean nan Gàidheal air dealbh-chluich Nollaig a chur air dòigh do chinann bun-sgoile air feadh na dùthcha.

Bha an taisbeanadh sònraichte seo – Marsaili agus a’ Bhleideag Airgid - air an àrd-úrlar airson cola-deug is shiuhal na cleasaichean còrr is 1,200 mile, a’ tadhail air bailtean, beag is mòr, air feadh na dùthcha. Ged nach eil e comasach do dh’Fhèisean nan Gàidheal am panto a thoirt dha na sgoltean is ionadan Gàidhlig gu lèir san dùthaich gach bliadhna, tha e na amas dhan bhuidhinn slìgh na cuairt atharrachadh bho bhliadhna gu bliadhna gus na sgoltean gu lèir a fhirthealadh.

Ruith a’ chuairt eadar 30mh Samhain agus 11mh Dùbhlachd, a’ tadhal air 17 sgoltean le 26 eile a’ cruinneachadh sna sgoltean as fhaisge orra airson an taisbeanadh fhìrininn còmhla. Tha na ceithir cleasaichean – Ellen NicDhòmhnaill, Catriona NicNeacail, Iain Beggs is an t-Oifigear Dràma againn, Aonghas MacLeòid - air cliù a chosnadh dhaibh pèin thar nam bliadhnaich, cuid aca le pàirtirteen ann am Bannan, dràma Gàidhlig BBC Alba. Rinn Laura Cowie an t-aodach sònraichte dhaibh is bha Daibhidh Walker gan stiuireadh.

This is the eighth successive year that Fèisean nan Gàidheal has put together a winter show for children in Gaelic-medium education.

Over the first two weeks of December, the show travelled over 1,200 miles, visiting cities, towns and villages throughout the country. Unfortunately it is not possible to visit all GM units in any one year but, as the Panto is an annual event, Fèisean nan Gàidheal hopes to visit all Gaelic units and schools within a few years.

This year the hour-long show was staged in 17 different schools/venues with a further 26 being invited to attend neighbouring schools to enjoy the show together. The cast of 4 are well-experienced actors and singers, some enjoying celebrity through the current Gaelic soap opera, Bannan. Director of this year’s panto was Daibhidh Walker and costume design was by Laura Cowie.

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TUTOR TRAINING 2016

Thèid tréanadh luchd-teagaisg Fèisean nan Gàidheal a chumail Disathairne 20mh Gearran 2016 ann an Sabhal Mòr Ostaig.

Tron chùrsa gheibh hear tréanadh ann an dion cloinne, sglean teagaisg, a bhith ag uillacadh airson Fèis agus a’ délibeach ri clann aig diofar irean.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal’s tutor training will be held on Saturday 20th February 2016 in Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, starting at 9.30am and coming to an end with a cèilidh in the evening.

Training will be offered in child protection, teaching skills, preparing for a Fèis and managing a class of children at different levels. There will also be information about Arts Awards, which tutors can work towards whilst teaching at a Fèis.

Accommodation and dinner will be available for those who require it on Friday 19th February and will also be available on Saturday night.

For more information, please get in touch with Shona Macmillan on shona@feisean.org or 01851 704 573.
NEW RESIDENTIAL FÈIS IN SUTHERLAND

Aig deireadh an Dàmhair rinn 15 deugair air Ostail Òigridh Thunga airson dà latha de cheòl is seinn Gàidhlig bha bùthan-obrach a’ dol air an t-sàr chòmhlan Dàimh. A bharrachd air sàr-óideachadh ann am fidheall, a’ phhib, bogs-a-ciùil, góidt, mandolin agus air seinn Gàidhlig bha bùthan-obrach a’ dol ann an obair-còmhlain agus seisean ciùil.

Fèis air an Òir is a choimhich a’ deireadh san Apainn aca. Tha Fèis ùr na h-Apainne a’ comharrachadh a’ chidh cheann bliadhna acra. Thairis air a’ bhlàdhna a dh’fhailbh tha an Fhèis air a dhùn bhòi neart gu neart a’ brosnachadh Gàidhlig is ceòl traidiseanta sa choimhearsnachd.

Tha an Fhèis seo gu mòr aig criithdhe na coimhearsnachd a-nise le muinntir an aithe a’ cruninnieachadh gach mios airson pàirt a gabhail sna tachartasain. Tha rutdan airson a h-uile duine, Fèis na Bige, claasichean ciùil, cofaidh i cric agus tòrr eile!

Oir Mar a dhiu chì dhìth a’ chòimhead air 50 neach ga frithleachadh agus tha Bun-sgoil Srath na h-Apainne làn de cheòl is de Ghaeilge a h-uile mios.

On a thoisich an Fhèis anns an Òir a e soilleir gu bheil i air buaidh Nach beag a thoirt air muinntir an aithe le tòrr dhaoine a’ gabhail pàirt ann an claasichean ciùil san uine aca fhèin. A bharrachd air seo tha buidheann mòr de mhùinnitir na h-Apainne airson a dhùn gu Fèis Latharnan anns an Òban anns a’ Ghilean. Tha seo a’ ciallachadh gum faigh na com-pàirticheadh blasad de dh’Fhèis na h-Apainne no motha agus bidh iad a’ coinnneachadh ri dhaione eile san sìre a tha deidheil air na h-Ealain Gàidhlig.

Tha Fèis na h-Apainne a-nise a’ coimhead air adhart ris an dàrna bliadhna agus ma chumas iad a’ dol mar a tha iad, bidh bliadhna eile air leth aca.

Over the past year Fèis na h-Apainne went from an idea to a well-established monthly event which encourages Gaelic and traditional music within the community.

The Fèis is very much at the heart of the community with locals coming every month to take part in the activities. There is a Fèis Bheag for the wee ones, lots of music classes and games’ sessions for the Fèis participants, as well as a coffee and craic session where people can have a blether and brush up on their Gaelic. For more information see Facebook/Fèis na h-Apainne.
Chaidh Iomlaid Chultarail 2015 a chur air dòigh ann an Inbhir Nis anns an Dàmhair le coigneàr à Alba agus sianar bhon Iomladh Oriel ann an Dundalk. Thàinig iad còmhlath ann an Inbhir Nis a' stiùireadh tri laithean làn ciùil, Gàidhlig agus ionnsachaidh. Mar as ãbhaist, sluich iad iad na Dùisean Iomlaim cho math ris a' ghèama eadar Alba agus Èirinn cuideachd.

Following on from the success of last year’s Cultural Exchange between a group of Fèis participants and a group of young Irish musicians from the Oriel Centre in Dundalk, we were delighted to receive funding from ComClìr to continue the project in October this year.

Six fantastic young musicians from Ireland met up with five Fèis participants from different areas of Scotland, in Inverness on the weekend of 23rd to 26th October to work with tutors Colm Ó Rua and Deirdre Ni Bhuachalla. During the weekend the group performed at the annual Shinty Awards and the Shinty/Hurling International game which took place at Bught Park, they played an informal session at the Waterfront and they took part in a Gaelic-song workshop with tradition-bearer Rona Lightfoot.

Although the Exchange is focused on music and ties in with the annual Shinty/Hurling series there is a very strong language element to the project. All the young people involved are either Gaelic or Gaeilge speakers as well as being very talented musicians and they are encouraged to develop their language skills and learn from each other.

All the participants and tutors worked really hard over the weekend and it was a great success so we are now working towards a visit to Ireland in 2016.

DUAIS NÀISEANTA GA BUILEACHADH AIR BLAS

The annual Blas Festival has been honoured at the Scottish Gaelic Awards ceremony, held in Glasgow recently, after receiving the Bòrd na Gàidhlig “Event Award”.

Now in its third year, the awards aim to celebrate the endeavours made by people and organisations in the development of the Gaelic language. The ceremony, run by the Daily Record and sponsored by Bòrd na Gàidhlig, saw an array of organisations and people recognised for their contributions towards the Gaelic language.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig interim CEO, Joe Moore said: “Bòrd na Gàidhlig congratulates Fèis Bhlas on their recent win at the Scottish Gaelic Awards 2015. The event has grown from strength to strength since its inception and is a great example of how the language walks hand-in-hand with the culture.”

Now in its eleventh year, the Blas Festival, which is run by Fèisean nan Gàidheal, has enjoyed year-on-year success, with an ever-growing audience, attracted by the festival’s varied and exciting international line-up of traditional musicians. With Gaelic language and culture at the heart of Blas, the award is recognition for the efforts each year to ensure the successful delivery of the expanding festival in collaboration with a wide range of bodies, voluntary and paid.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal CEO, Arthur Cormack, said: “Fèisean nan Gàidheal was delighted to have been shortlisted in four categories at the Gaelic Awards. We have been working in partnership with the Highland Council for over a decade to develop Blas and stage the festival each year. We are very happy to have received this award and would like to thank all the bodies who fund us, the local organisations that promote events in their own localities, High Life Highland who organise the education programme and, especially, Donna Macrae who is contracted to do the vast majority of preparatory work for the festival each year.”

Blas Festival 2016 will take place from the 2nd -10th September.
5 LATHA 4-9 GIBLEAN 2016

Thèid an còigeamh 5 Latha a chumail eadar 4mh agus 9mh Giblean aig Na Gèarrannan, Eilean Leòdhais. Gheibh suas ri sì-deug com-pàirtiche, aiche àrd-sgoile, a thà fileanta sa Ghàidhlig an cothrom Cóig latha a chur seachad ann an coimhearsnachd Ghàidhlig far a bheil obair ann an croiteachadh, iasgach agus as Chò Mheargach mar phàirt mòr de bheatha muinntir na sgìre.

Gach latha, bidh com-pàrtichean a’ tadhail air daoin a tha sàr eòbail air an obair aca agus gheibh a chumail a’ chomh-ionsachadh mu na dòmhar ghnìomhan anns a bheil iad ann sàs, bho chaoraich aig ámbreith na h-uain, bualin na mòr, ag iasgach aig mìr, trusadh maoraich gu obair a’ Chò Mhòr bho shnàth gu seacaid.

Bidh com-pàritichean cuideachadh ag ionnsachadh beagan mu bhith a’ còcaireachd biadh traide-seanta de dhiofar shéòrsachan, le taic agus comhairle bho dhaoine sa choimhearsnachd. Ged nach fheum comas ciúil a bhith aig com-pàrtichean airson 5 Latha a fhirthealadh, bidh sinn a’ tabhann chothromann sònraichte ceòl is òrain ionnsachadh bho shàr luchd-ciúil na Ghàidhlig cuideachd.

Airson tuilleadh fiosrachadh agus foirm iarrtais thoir sùil air www.feisean.org/5latha no cuiribh fios gu Calum MacMhaoilein air 01463 225559 no calum@feisean.org.

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The fifth 5 Latha (5 Days) will be held at the Gàrrannan Blackhouses, Island of Lewis between 4 and 9 April 2016. Up to sixteen Gaelic-speaking participants of high school age will have the opportunity to spend five days in a community where Gaelic is used naturally and in which crofting, fishing and the Harris Tweed industry play an important part in the lives of its residents.

TAISBEANNAIDHEAN AIG A’ MHÒD NAISEANTA RÌOGHAIL

Aig toiseach an Dàmhair, bha Fèisean nan Gàidheal toilichte pàirt a ghabhail sa Mhòd Naíseanta Rìoghail anns na Òban. Thàiris air ceithir lagha, bha Oifigeur Margaideachdach agus Fòillseachadh Fèisean nan Gàidheal, Rowan NicPhàdraig, a nàs ann na taisbeanaidhean poblach a chaithd a chumail aig Tallaghian a’ Choir-Rainn, far an robh measachadh de bhuidhean Gàidhlig (agus eile) stèidheadh tron t-seachdain.

Thug na taisbeanaidhean seo cothrom don t-sluaghr bruidhinn ri buidhean gus fòillseachadh fhaghinn mu na seirbhisean agus cur-seachadan anns a bheil iad ann sàs.

Thùirt an t-Oifigeur Margaideachdachd, Rowan NicPhàdraig, “Chòrd an t-seachdain rùm gu mòr. Bha e fior mhath bruidhinn ri daoinn mu na seirbhisean agus gseamachd a tha sinn a’ tabhann aig Fèisean nan Gàidheal. ’S e an rud a fhadh mun Mhòd, gu bheil daoinn tighinn bhò air feadh air t-saoghail gus faisinn dè th’ ann – ’s mar sin, bha cothrom again inne don t-sluagh a bha an làthair mu obair Fèisean nan Gàidheal.”

FNG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

The Annual General Meeting of Fèisean nan Gàidheal took place on Friday 25 September in the Dark Island Hotel, Benbecula, with over 80 delegates and guests in attendance. The AGM was followed by a Dinner and Ceòlchaidh in the hotel, with music from Fèis Tir an Órna agus Féis Tir a’ Mhòrain.

The organisation’s Conference took place on Saturday 26 September. Rachael McCormack, Strengthening Communities Director, Highlands and Islands Enterprise was our special guest on Saturday. There was lots of practical information to pass on to Fèis organisers with the launch of a Fèis Resource Pack and the Gaelic Song Project, Fuaran. Other topics covered included Early Years and Gaelic for Committees.

Stacey Toner discussed progress with the Highland Youth Arts Hub and Mairi MacInnes gave an update on future plans for Ceòlas.